

IN THE SPECIFICATION

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U. S . Patent 4,878,270 discloses ~~a~~ a rope tie-down clamp apparatus for tightening and securing a rope between two points.

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mounted a pair of rope abutments 14A and 14B. Each abutment 14A and 14B has a toothed surface 16A and ~~16BB~~ facing the other abutment 24B and 24A, respectively. Two spindles 18A and 18B, are mounted on the base surface 13 between the abutments 14A, B. Two cams, 20A and 20B, are mounted on one spindle 18A. The second spindle 18B is a stop that limits rotation of cams 20A and 20B mounted a pair of rope abutments 14 A and 14B. Each abutment 14A and 14B has a toothed surface 16A and ~~16BB~~ 16B facing the other abutment ~~24~~ 14B and ~~24~~ 14A , respectively. Two spindles, 18A and 18B, are mounted on the base surface 13 between the abutments 14 A,B. Two cams, 20A and 20B, are mounted on one spindle 18A. The second spindle 18B is a stop that limits rotation of cams 20A and 20B. One cam 20B has a toothed surface (not shown in fig. 1) that faces toward abutment 14B and cam 20A has a toothed surface 21A facing abutment 14A. A spring 22 having one end against cam 20A and another end against cam 20B biases

cam 20A and cam 20B to rotate toward respective toothed surfaces 16 A and 16B. A pair of covers 26A and ~~16B~~ 26B are shown which are slidably mounted on pedestals, 15A and 15B respectively so that the rope is retained when the cover is in the closed (retain) position as shown in fig. 3 and permits engagement and withdrawal of the rope from between the abutment surface and cam surface when the cover is in a release position as shown in fig. 2. A stop 17 is shown which limits the slide distance of covers 26A and 26 B in the closed position. A pin (not shown) in the bottom of each of covers 26A,B slidably engage slots ~~21~~ 25A and ~~21B~~ 25B and limit the slide distance in the open position .

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Fig. 3 shows the ropes 24A and 24B in position and covers 26A,B closed. An end of each cover, 26A and ~~26B~~, extends over an area of the base on the side of the abutment 14A and 14B opposite the cam thereby shielding the rope 24A looped ~~peeped~~ back over the base 12.

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Fig. 8 shows an embodiment for locking the rope against movement in either direction with rope 24 between pair of cams 20 A,B facing abutment 14 where each cam 20 A,B is mounted on its own spindle 18 D,E respectively Each cam 20A,B has a handle 43A,B respectively. Cover 19E is rotatably mounted on spindle 19F and is rotatable from the open position as shown to the closed position over the rope.